(c) During my meetings with the Russian leadership the subject of international and cross-country terrorism also came up for discussion. Both sides resolved to contain and eliminate the scourge of terrorism. Since the Protocol focused on Defence and Military-Technical Cooperation and it was signed by the Defence Secretary and the First Deputy Defence Minister of the Russian Federation, the two co-Chairmen of the Indo-Russian Group on Military-Technical Cooperation this subject was not included in the Protocol.

Terrorists Activities in J and K

1096. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir are on the rise;

(b) if so, the number of civilians and security personnel killed during the last six months; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent further escalation of terrorist activities?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There have been continued efforts on the part of certain terrorist outfits and their promoters and supporters from across the border to escalate terrorist related activities.

(b) During the 6 months period from January 1, 2000 to June 30, 2000, 119 Army/RR personnel and 361 civilians were killed.

(c) Several steps including the strengthening of border management, gearing up of intelligence machinery, greater functional integration through an institutional framework under the UHQ at various levels, improving technology, weapons and equipment for security forces etc. have been effectively undertaken.

Storage of Missiles and Ammunitions

1097. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a policy to store ammunition away from the cities;

(b) whether the storage of missiles is kept away from the storage of other ammunition;

(c) if not, whether it is desirable to do so considering the risks that are involved; and

(d) whether the storage of missiles and other ammunition confirm to the highest safety standards being observed in other countries also?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. However, though the sites for Ammunition Depots were located away from the cities, with passage of time, population growth have started to spread to the vicinity of the Ammunition of Depots.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) The storage of missiles and other ammunition conform to laid down safety standards.

Procurement of Surveillance System from Israel

1098. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken precaution while proceeding to deal for pualocn surveillance system from Israel, keeping in view the non-supply of the same to China under US pressure;

(b) whether it is fact that Russian Air born Surveillance System has been tested in India; and

(c) if so, what was the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Adequate safeguards will be ensured if the deal is finalised with Israel.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The performance of the Russian A-50 AWACS, as observed during the demonstrations, did not meet the requirements of Indian Air force.